Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ADDIS 01687 120938Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 HA-05
PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /063 W
----------095418 130155Z /65
R 120806Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8026
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 1687

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, PEPR, ET, IN, US
SUBJ: INDIAN VIEWS ON ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS WITH WEST

1. INDIAN AMBASSADOR VINAY VERMA IS REASONABLY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT LONG-RUN PROSPECTS OF ETHIOPIA BEING CONVERTED TO THE TRUE FAITH OF NON-ALIGNMENT. DURING APRIL 11 CALL BY CHARGE, HE SAID HE COULD DETERMINE NO REAL INTENTION OF PMGSE TO BREAK DIP RELATIONS WITH WEST IN GENERAL OR US IN PARTICULAR. HE BASED HIS ESTIMATE ON RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER FELLEKE DURING TWO-DAY TRIP TO OGADEN TOVIEW WAR DAMAGE (SEPTELS). NATIONALISM, VERMA FEELS, IS STILL THE DRIVING FORCE, AND IT WILL OVERTAKE LOYALTY TO SOVIETS AND CUBANS ONCE THEIR MILITARY ARE NO LONGER NEEDED.

2. VERMA STATED NON-ALIGNED DIPLOMATS IN ADDIS HAVE THREE MESSAGES WHICH MUST BE PUT ACROSS TO ETHIOPIANS: (A) ETHIOPIA NEEDS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AND ONLY WESTERN POWERS CAN AND ARE WILLING TO PROVIDE IT IN ANYTHING LIKE SUFFICIENT AMOUNTS; (B) EXTRA-AFRICAN FORCES SHOULD BE REMOVED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. ALTHOUGH THEY WERE JUSTIFIED IN DEFENSE OF ETHIOPIAN TERRITORY IN OGADEN, SETTLEMENT OF AN INTERNAL DISPUTE SUCH AS ERITREA WITH SUPER-POWER FORCES IS A "NO-NO (C) HUMAN RIGHTS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ADDIS 01687 120938Z

VIOLATIONS, AS EPITOMIZED BY RED TERROR, ARE A LEGITIMATE CONCERN OF ALL UN MEMBERS. HE ADDED THAT INDIAN PRESS IS OFTEN CRITICAL OF RED TERROR HERE, AND HE HAS TOLD OFFICIALS IT WILL CONTINUE TO BE SO AS LONG AS IT GOES ON.

3. BUT, VERMA WENT ON, "YOU WESTERNERS CAN ONLY MAKE MATTERS WORSE BY SAYING SUCH THINGS TO ETHIOPIANS." HIS

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

POINT, OF COURSE, WAS THAT WE OUGHT TO LEAVE SERMON TO THE NON-ALIGNED SUCH AS HIMSELF.

4. VERMA, THOUGH CONSIDERING HIMSELF A NON-ALIGNED HARD LINER, HAS BEEN MUCH CLOSER TO THIS EMBASSY SINCE HIS ARRIVAL LAST DECEMBER THAN TO SOCIALIST REPRESENTATIVES. PART OF THIS IS DUE TO HIS PREDELICTION FOR AMERICANS BASED ON THE WASHINGTON ASSIGNMENT WHICH HE AND HIS WIFE LOOK BACK UPON FONDLY. HE WORKS CONSCIENTIOUSLY HERE AND CAN, WE BELIEVE, BE COUNTED UPON TO CONVEY MESSAGES IN PARA 2 ABOVE, HOW EFFECTIVELY REMAINS TO BE SEEN. AS A COUNTRY, INDIA HAS RELATIVELY LITTLE LEVERAGE IN ETHIOPIA.

5. ANY COMMENT NEW DELHI MAY HAVE ON VERMA WOULD BE WELCOME.
MATHERON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, NONALIGNED NATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ADDIS01687
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780158-0164
Format: TEL
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780467/aaaacezj.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e38b61b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2999555
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDIAN VIEWS ON ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS WITH WEST
TAGS: PINR, PEPR, ET, IN, US, (VERMA, VINAY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e38b61b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014